

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 L-03

FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04

CIEP-01 CEA-01 NEA-10 INT-05 /101 W

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P 081605Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1671

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, CIEC

SUBJECT: UNCTAD MEETINGS ON COMMODITIES: COPPER -

PRELIMINARY CONSUMER DISCUSSIONS

REF: STATE 219328

1. EMBOFF CONVEYED US VIEWS ON HANDLING COPPER
DISCUSSIONS TO DEP. ASST. SECRETARY MUELLER-THUNS IN
ECONOMICS MINISTRY. WHILE AGREEING THAT HLGC MEETING
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WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNE OCCASION FOR DISCUSSIONS,

MUELLER-THUNS SUGGESTED THAT IN ADDITION THE US, UK, JAPAN, FRANCE, AND FRG MIGHT HAVE AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION ON SEPTEMBER 23, AND THAT ALL CONSUMER COUNTRIES PLANNING TO ATTEND UNCTAD SESSION MIGHT MEET INFORMALLY IN GENEVA ON EVE OF UNCTAD MEETING. MUELLER-THUNS INDICATED THAT FRG WOULD HAVE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT EC INTEREST IN DEVELOPING COMMON POSITION, AS WELL AS ON-GOING FRANCO-GERMAN DISCUSSIONS. HE INSISTED THAT FRANCE NOT BE EXCLUDED FROM ANY DISCUSSIONS. THUS, FOUR MAJOR CONSUMERS PLUS FRANCE COULD PREPARE FOR DISCUSSION IN GENEVA WITH ALL CONSUMERS, INCLUDING BELGIUM AND OTHER EC COUNTRIES HAVING IMPORTANT CONSUMER INTERESTS. MUELLER-THUNS INDICATED THAT PRESTON MIGHT BE THE BEST PERSON TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE IN PARIS TO ORGANIZE THESE SESSIONS.

2. MUELLER-THUNS ACCEPTED THE TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION PROPOSED IN PARA 4 REFTEL. HE NOTED THAT POINTS A AND C ARE CLOSELY INTER-RELATED, AND SUGGESTED THAT WE BE CAREFUL NOT TO PUSH FOR RAPID DECISIONS ON ESTABLISHING AN INDEPENDENT FORUM IF WE WISH TO SUCCEED.

3. ACCORDING TO MUELLER-THUNS, A FRENCH TEAM OF GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY EXPERTS HEADED BY LEGOUX WILL VISIT BONN ON SEPTEMBER 13 TO REVIEW FRENCH AND GERMAN POSITIONS ON COPPER. THIS MEETING WILL BE FOLLOWED BY BILATERAL POLICY-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS IN BONN THE FOLLOWING DAY. GERMAN TEAM WILL BE HEADED BY LAUTENSCHLAGER AND STEEG, AND FRENCH DELEGATION BY FROMENT-MEURICE AND DEMOREL. THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL CENTER ON COMMON FUND, BUT WILL ALSO COVER COPPER AND OTHER COMMODITY ISSUES.
HILLENBRAND

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